

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/803,085

Examiner

Carlos Lugo

Applicant(s)

KACHOUH, CHECRALLAH

Art Unit

3676

## -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to applicant's amendment filed on 2/21/06 and 4/13/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 3-5,8,9 and 12-32.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

## Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. This Office Action is in response to applicant's amendment filed on February 21, 2006 and further to applicant's supplemental amendment filed on April 13, 2006.

#### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

2. **Claims 3-5,8,9, and 12-32 are allowed.**

#### **Reasons For Allowance**

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 8 and 12 are allowable subject matter over the prior art of record because the teachings of the references taken as a whole do not teach or render obvious the combination set forth, including that an intermediate lever couples the transmission lever with the latch.

Johnstone (US 3,386,761) and Raffelsiefer (US 4,298,223) fail to disclose that an intermediate lever couples the transmission lever with the latch.

Cited prior art, Bernard (US 4,783,102), Amano (US 6,557,910), Spurr (US 6,773,042), and Noel (US 4,203,621) disclose similar devices that the one described by the applicant in claims 1-7,10,11,14-19, and 26-28. However, the references fail also to disclose that an intermediate lever couples the transmission lever with the latch.

Kleefeldt (US 4,518,180) discloses a motor vehicle lock comprising a latch (2), a transmission lever (9) and a blocking element (3). Kleefeldt discloses that an intermediate lever (14 and 15) couples the transmission lever (9) with the latch (when 10 engages 13). However, Kleefeldt fails to disclose that the blocking element will

block the movement of the transmission lever of the ratchet kinematics. Kleefeldt discloses that blocking element (3) will block the movement of the latch (2).

New cited prior art, Raymond (US 6,659,515) discloses a vehicle lock comprising a latch (7), a transmission lever (18), a blocking element (8) and an intermediate lever (13) connecting the latch with the transmission lever. However, Raymond fails to disclose that the blocking element will block the movement of the transmission lever of the ratchet kinematics. Raymond discloses that blocking element (8) will block the movement of the latch (7).

Although Raymond discloses the connection of the latch with the transmission lever by means of a intermediate lever, it would not be obvious to provide this teach into the device described by Raffelsiefer, since the device described by Raffelsiefer uses springs elements so as to eliminate the use of a motor to move the latch.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Carlos Lugo whose telephone number 571-272-7058. The examiner can normally be reached on 9-6pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Glessner can be reached on 571-272-6843. The fax phone number

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for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-306-5771.



Carlos Lugo  
Patent Examiner AU 3676  
April 24, 2006.



**BRIAN E. GLESSNER**  
**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**